

# Austin Climate Protection Program Quarterly Update



Electric Utility Commission  
October 18, 2010

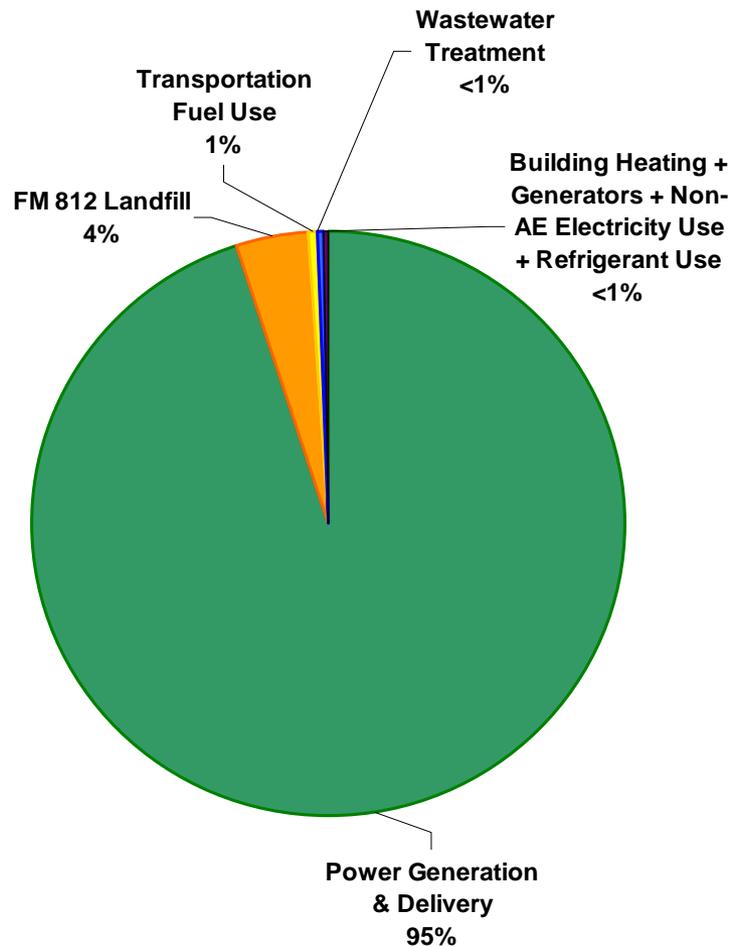


# Municipal Inventories

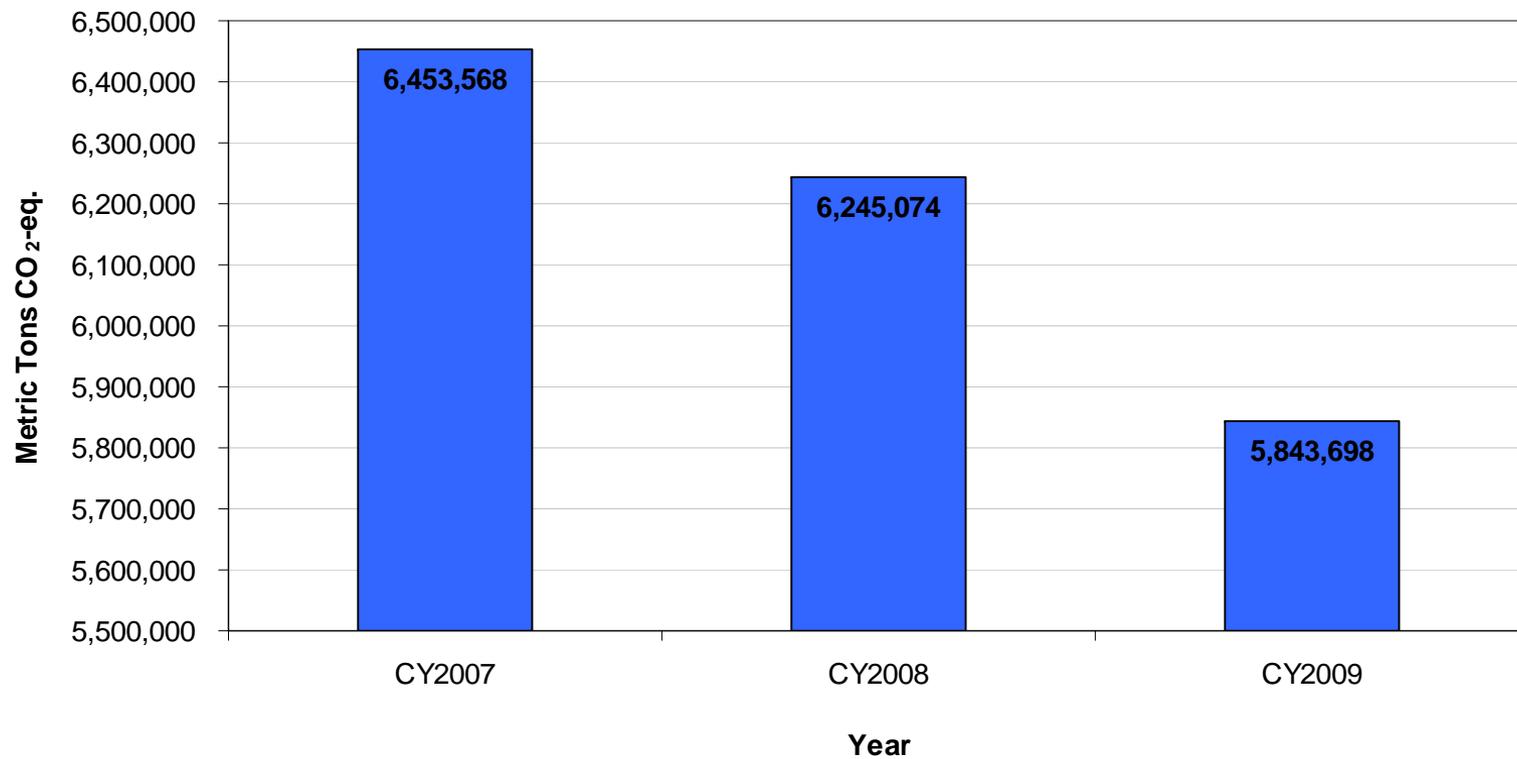
# 2009 Municipal Inventory

**5,843,698 metric tons CO<sub>2</sub>-eq.**

Equivalent to the Greenhouse Gases from the Annual Electricity Use of  
856,300 Austin Homes



# 2007 - 2009 Municipal Inventories



# Reducing Municipal GHG Saves \$

Collectively, the quantifiable goals set by the 23 departments and 5 buildings have the potential in the first year (2010) to reduce:

- 5.8 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity, avoiding \$462,000 in electricity costs
- 48,000 hundred cubic feet (ccf) of natural gas, avoiding \$32,000 in heating costs
- 53.6 million gallons of water, avoiding \$225,000 in water costs
- 194,300 gallons of transportation fuel, avoiding \$619,800 in fuel costs
- 337,300 metric tons of GHG emissions (relative to CY2007 baseline)

# Climate Action Team

- Monthly meetings continue with COA staff to provide
  - Updates or new information from different departments
  - Discussion on implementing DCPPs
- Working in teams to identify barriers and solutions for achieving climate actions in the 6 areas of DCPPs
  - Energy
  - Transportation Fuel
  - Materials management
  - Water
  - Purchasing
  - Waste

# Departmental Climate Protection Plans (DCPPs)

- All 23 departments and 5 building plans filed on [coolaustin.org](http://coolaustin.org) as of June 2010
- Plans set goals and outline implementation strategies for reductions within departments
- Goals posted in CARS

# Climate Action Reporting System (CARS)

- CARS in development with CTM
  - Provides dashboard for Department Directors to review greenhouse gas emissions of facilities, operations, and fleet
  - Includes a carbon reduction performance measure to be linked to 2012 Budget
  - Scheduled deployment date January 2011
- ACPP Staff in place to provide oversight and maintenance of data for CARS

# Online Employee Training

- Online training scheduled to be available by November 1 through City's TRAIN
- Employees will receive 1 hour of required training for completing course
- Class will cover Climate Science, CoA activities to reduce carbon, personal action employees can take reduce personal carbon footprint

# How CARS works

Energy, Waste, Water, Transportation, Purchasing, Education data all automatically upload into system

23 City Departments

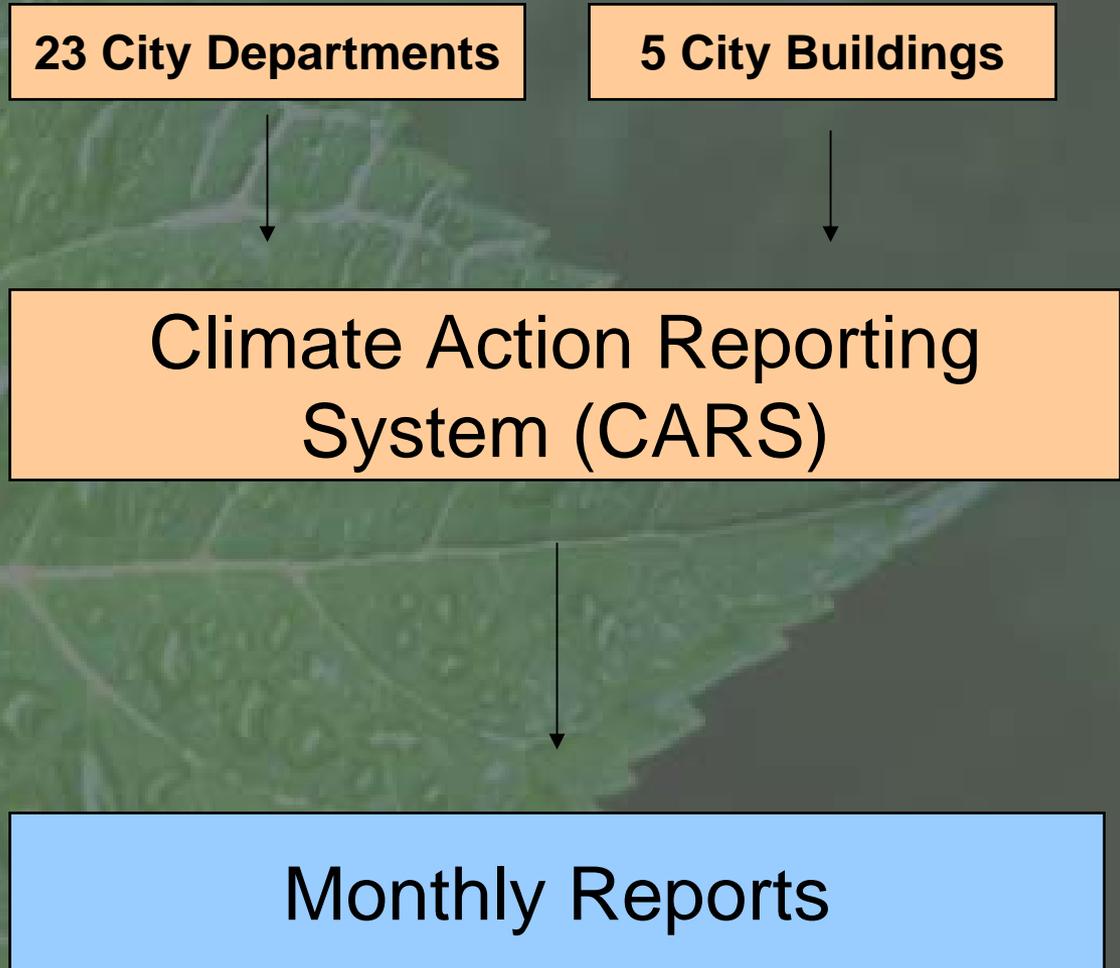
5 City Buildings

CARS automatically collects data from CIS and other databases to create monthly, quarterly, and yearly reports on emissions

Climate Action Reporting System (CARS)

Monthly reports provide interdepartmental assessment and tracking of progress on goals set within the DCPPs

Monthly Reports



# Value of Departmental Plans

The 337,300-metric ton reduction in GHGs in 2010 reduces the City's total municipal operations carbon footprint by 5 percent compared to 2007 levels and potentially avoids \$1.3 million in operating costs.

If this level of reduction is achieved each year between 2010 and 2020, the City can expect to cut its carbon footprint by nearly 50 percent.

# Community Plan

- Community Climate Action Plan 2010
  - Community Workshop August 24<sup>th</sup>
  - Advisory board and chair meeting Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>
  - Working with Planning Department to incorporate Climate related issues into the Comprehensive Plan, **Imagine Austin**
- Target date of March 2011 for Climate Summit and release of draft plan for greater community input and buy-in.

# Carbon Calculator

- Personal Calculator is averaging 150 visitors per month, of whom 72% are new users
- The One Minute Calculator is getting about 300 visitors per month, of whom 80% are new users

# Challenge Grants

## Drafting Challenge Grant RFP

- Respondents will be local groups working on carbon reduction initiatives (tree planting, transit projects, weatherization, etc)
- ACPP will review applications to fund projects that demonstrate a clear methodology for delivering verifiable local carbon reductions.
- The resulting offsets will be available for purchase and this revenue will fund additional offset projects.

# Industries Sustainable Leadership for Austin (ISLA)

## Business Community Plan

- Coordinate communication between environmental professionals in Austin's industrial sector to improve environmental practices
- Promote GHG reduction strategies to local businesses and keep the business community informed on what they can do to protect our climate.

# Air Quality Monitoring

- January 2010 Environmental Protection Agency proposed ozone standard between 60 and 70 parts per billion (ppb)
- On August 28<sup>th</sup>, Austin area recorded an air quality monitoring reading of 74 ppb, placing it above the proposed standard
- Reasonable to assume region will be designated non-attainment by 2011
- Local clean air partners, including the City of Austin, continue current voluntary efforts to improve air quality

# 2010 Ozone Season Summary

## October 2010



5/28/2010

77

8/28/2010

76

5/5/2010

75

5/4/2010

73

**2010 Ozone Season design value is the 3-year average of the 4<sup>th</sup> highest reading at the prevailing monitor.**

Current 2008 -2010

Design Value

2008

74

2009

76

=

74

*\*Number rounded DOWN to nearest 2 significant digits*

# Walk, Bike And Roll 2010

Total Trips Avoided in 18 Weeks =  
23,357

- To and From Work Trips = 5,771
- During the Work Day Trips = 17,766
- 227 lbs. of NOx avoided (2008 CAMPO)
- 168,011 lbs of carbon dioxide avoided (2008 CAMPO)
- \$102,263 cumulatively saved (2009 AAA)

# Urban Heat Island Tree Plantings

- Shade Tree Contract
  - 13 trees (5" Caliper) Cedar Elms Wells Branch Parkway
  - 11 trees (2 5" caliper, and the rest 15 gallon) for Keep Austin Beautiful neighborhood grant program
  - Austin Community Tree program, South Congress Neighborhood Planning Area, November 2009
- NeighborWoods Tree Planting
  - 2025 trees (5 gallon) placed in neighborhoods throughout Austin so far in 2010
  - 25,900 trees placed through this program since 2002

# Urban Heat Island Activities

- Green Roof Advisory Group Report finished and presented to Boards & Commissions for comments. Presented to Council in late October.
- Austin's Tree of the Year event, October 18<sup>th</sup> at St. Andrew's School.
- 2010 Austin Community Trees (ACT) planting project in the Montopolis Planning area (October 16<sup>th</sup>).
- NeighborWoods began delivery of trees in October

# Plug in your Wheels

- Provided incentives totaling \$11,700 during fy 2010
  - 39 electric bicycles
  - 40 electric scooters
  - 4 electric motorcycles
- Pending Council approval, Plug-In Partners Pilot Program will offer home charging station incentives to people who buy or lease Plug-in Electric Vehicles (PEVs)

# Decision Points

- Continuation of Carbon Calculator contract
- City facilities on GreenChoice
- Offsets and Challenge grants

# Questions?

